Date: June 5, 2007

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Memorandum

To : The Conservancy

The Advisory Committee

From: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item 9(e): Consideration of resolution supporting AB3 (Bass), an act to repeal Section 32580 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution supporting AB 3 (Bass), an act to repeal Section 32580 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

<u>Legislative Authority</u>: Sections 33211 (c) of the Public Resources Code.

<u>Background</u>: SB 1625 (Murray) - Chapter 428, Statutes of 2000, created the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC). This bill deletes the January 1, 2008 sunset date on the BHC, thereby extending the operation of the BHC indefinitely.

The mission of the BHC is to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience. The Baldwin Hills are the last, large undeveloped area of open space in urban Los Angeles County, covering over two miles of dramatic ridgelines and steep canyons. Its swamps, grasslands and riparian areas provide habitat for hundreds of species of native plants and animals. The Baldwin Hills encompass 450 acres of protected parkland, including the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, the Ladera Ball Fields, the Vista Pacifica Scenic Site, Culver City Park and Norman O. Houston Park.

The sunset date for the BHC should be deleted to allow it to continue to plan for acquisition, development, and restoration of land within its jurisdiction.